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FM AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1782
INFO RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD PRIORITY 0079
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI
RHMFIUU/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
RUEHDO/AMEMBASSY DOHA 0018
RUEHKU/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 0032
RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 0036
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH 0029
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 0015
RUEHBG/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 5923
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2042
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RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 3112
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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ULAANBAATAR 000005

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PACOM FOR FPA AMB CHRISTY

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR PREL ETRD EPET SOCI MG

SUBJECT: Mongolian Vice Foreign Minister Formally Conveys Confirmation of 9th Iraq Rotation

Ref: A) 07 Ulaanbaatar 708, B) SECDEF 101616Z Dec 07

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¶1. (SBU) SUMMARY: Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Enkhmandakh confirmed to the Ambassador January 3 that Mongolia would deploy a full 9th rotation of troops to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and that the troops would depart for Iraq sometime the following week. The Ambassador expressed the USG's appreciation for Mongolia's continuing commitment to Iraq, the coalition, and its peacekeeping partnership with the U.S. END SUMMARY.

¶2. (SBU) Recently appointed Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Baldan Enkhmandakh (bio at para 5) confirmed to the Ambassador that Mongolia had approved the USG's request to deploy a full 9th rotation of Mongolian troops to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The DCM and DATT also attended the brief but very cordial 20-minute meeting on January 3, along with MFA Acting Director General for Americas, Middle East and Africa Affairs Mounkhou and Zalaa-Uul, Counselor in Charge of Iraq and Africa issues, Department for Americas, Middles East and Africa.

¶3. (SBU) Enkhmandakh said the discussion with the Government of Mongolia (GOM) on the decision had not been easy and the positions and decisions of other coalition partners had been taken into consideration. Nevertheless, the decision had been made to send the full 9th rotation and the Ministry of Defense was preparing the troops to depart sometime next week. (Note: The DATT understands that arrangements are underway to airlift the 100 troop contingent on either January 8 or 10.) He passed a diplomatic note (see next para) to the Ambassador confirming the GOM's decision. The Ambassador expressed appreciation to all those in the GOM that had participated in the decision, including President Enkhbayar, Prime

Minister Bayar, and Speaker Lundeejantsan as well as the Ministries of Defense and Foreign Affairs. He noted President Bush, Secretaries Gates and Rice, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of

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Staff had all written seeking the GOM's continued support and cooperation, for which the USG is grateful. The Ambassador noted that PACOM Admiral Keating had recently visited Mongolian forces in Iraq to express our thanks and in recognition of the important role Mongolia's troops play in the coalition.

14. (SBU) Text of Diplomatic Note A/08-04 dated January 2, 2008:

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honor to inform you that the Government of Mongolia has decided on December 26, 2007 to send to Iraq, after the expiry of the term of service of the 8th rotation team of the Mongolian armed forces, the next 9th full rotation team.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs sincerely believes that the close cooperation between our two countries in peacekeeping and reconstruction efforts in Iraq would be of assistance to the Iraqi people and would further strengthen the excellent relations between our two countries in the interest of promoting common values.

(Complimentary closing.)

End Note Text.

15. (U) Bio Sketch from MFA's Web Site:

Name: Mr. ENKMANDAKH Baldan
Title: Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs
Date and Place of Birth: 1955, Ulaanbaatar

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Education:

1973 National University of Mongolia
1978 Leningrad University, Soviet Union
1991 Academy of Social Sciences, Moscow
1994 King Street College, London
Sociologist, Professor, PhD

Career:

1978-1983 Professor in National University of Mongolia
1983-1984 Head of the Committee of Youth Association, National University of Mongolia
1984-1986 Second secretary of Ulaanbaatar Committee of Youth Association
1986-1988 First secretary of Ulaanbaatar Committee of Youth Association
1988-1991 PhD degree student of the Academy of Social Sciences
1991 Senior scholar, Research center of the Central Committee of Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP)
1991-1993 Head of the Professional inspection office for education, Chief inspector, Ministry of Science and Education
1993-1996 MPRP Secretary
1996-1997 Director of the international global studies
1997-2000 Political advisor in the MPRP Steering committee
2000-2001 Secretary of MPRP
2001-2005 Counselor of political affairs in the Embassy to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
2005-2006 Advisor to the Secretary General of MPRP
2006-2007 Vice Minister of Environment
Since December 2007 Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs

Foreign languages: Russian and English

Marital status: Married, 4 children

Minton